



LARC



Volume 46, Number 6

June 2006

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday June 1, 2006 - 7 PM

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM

Refreshments - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Piney Hills (Ruston) - July 22

Leesville - August 12, 2006

Monroe - November 11, 2006

Each Wednesday

Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery

Check 146.820 - repeater for info

Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

YL/XYL Only Net 146.820 - 600

a.k.a. Filly Net

AARA OFFICERS 2006-2007

President - Roland Guidry NA5Q

na5q@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Stratos Imvriotis KE5DCI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

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Regular meetings 1st Thursday of

each month at 7:00 p.m. at the

American Red Cross Building

101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

President's Message

The last AARA meeting was a very informative meeting. Charlie, KI5XP, is setting things up for Field Day and Nick, K5QXJ, is working hard to make the Children's Museum of Acadiana radio station a reality.

Charlie, KI5XP, has a good handle on the upcoming June 24-25th, Field Day event. He has begun setting up assignments and will be asking for assistance from the membership. It appears that many of our new members are volunteering to assist, please offer to assist them. We should have many more radio operators this year. Also, there will be plenty of airtime for those that wish to operate the radios. Or, come and encourage the participants and rag chew with them. We are going to "WIN" our division and have loads of fun too!

I would like to remind you that Sunday, June 25th, at the Field Day site, beginning after the contest, Stratos is arranging for a **club picnic** for all club members. He promises a good time, plenty of food and a few surprises are in store.

Nick, K5QXJ, is working hard on the **Children's Museum of Acadiana** project. He and I met May 11th with Renee and Marvita of the Children's Museum. We had a good tour of the future radio club station site and antenna location at the Old Heymann's building. They and their staff are very excited about our participation in the museum project. The AARA club will be getting plenty of media exposure with this project. Also, we expect several Acadiana corporate sponsors will assist with funds or items to defray museum expenses for the construction, sound proofing and decoration of the radio room.

Nick will be putting out a donation item list for the museum project soon. Check around your shack and see if there is something that would be of interest to teenagers interested in our hobby or items that you think would be a perfect donation for the club station. No junk, now! Remember this is your club's project, not Nicks or I. Nick will be looking for commitments from the membership at the next meeting for planning, operation, teaching and installation. **Please volunteer your time, you will find this a very rewarding experience and it will and should enhance the survival of our hobby in Acadiana.**

Stratos will be presiding at the next club meeting in June, since I will be out of town. Be sure to attend and share your thoughts. The next several months are going to be very busy, with events and projects approved by the club. A calendar of events is posted on our website: www.w5ddl.org.

God Bless and 73!
Roland Guidry, NA5Q
President



May Meeting Presentations

DXpedition to CMA

The Children's Museum of Acadiana, Inc. and the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. announce their joint venture to further the Children's Museum's mission of "Learning by Doing" through hands-on operation of ham radios during workshops at the Museum. With the assistance of the Association, children throughout Acadiana and beyond will have the opportunity to talk to ham radio operators around the world or in their own town. Many of these exchanges will create enriching experiences in cultural diversity, from languages to time zones. The Museum expects many of its visitors to become intrigued by ham radio operation and to acquire their own ham radio licenses.

You may contact the Children's Museum of Acadiana, Inc. by writing, telephone or e-mail at: 201 E. Congress, Lafayette, LA 70501 - (337) 232-8500 Marvitacma@bellsouth.net



Marvita Hudson

Renee Miller

Kris Wotipka - KD5QYV



Joey KE5AOF

Roland NA5Q

ARRL 2006 Handbook Presentation

Joey Richard KE5AOF receives a copy of the 2006 ARRL Handbook from Club President Roland Guidry NA5Q for his outstanding service as AARA Monday Night Net Manager and for checking in the most times during the 2005 - 2006 year. Part of his job was to call the net on alternate Monday's, keeping a data base for all those that checked in, and getting a monthly report to the Louisiana ARRL Section Manager Mickey Cox K5MC. I think Joey deserves a great big "THANKS" for his job as our club's NCS and Manager. Check out our Monday Night Net on the 146.820 repeater at 7:00 PM in Lafayette.

Field Day 2006

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. will again take part in **Field Day** activities on Saturday June 24th and Sunday June 25th, 2006. **Field Day** is a sponsored event by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) each year during the last full weekend in June. Amateur Radio operators will set up and operate under emergency conditions, using battery, generators, and solar power. The rules for this event are set forth by the ARRL and are very strict. It is under these conditions that radio operators hone up their skills to provide emergency communications during emergency conditions. Check out <http://www.arrl.org> for more information.

(continued on page 4 column 2)



WWW.ARRL.ORG

(continued from the May issue of LARC)

Submitted by Stratos Imvriotis KE5DCI**Call Signs**

Every licensed Radio Amateur is given a call sign that is used to identify you and your location of license. Each country that has Amateur Radio status is allocated a range of call signs by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

Prefix and Suffix

Call signs consist of a prefix and a suffix. The prefix is usually composed of one or two letters and a number such as VE4 in Canada for the province of Manitoba or K9 in the U.S. for the states Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. Some countries have prefixes that are composed of a number and a letter such as 4X for Israel or 9K for Kuwait. While the prefix uniquely identifies a country the suffix is unique for the individual. In Canada a call sign such as VE3ABC has VE3 (Ontario) as the prefix and ABC as the suffix. In the U.S the call sign N2MG has a prefix of N2 and suffix of MG. U.S. hams may also have a two letter prefix thus AB2Z is a valid call. Suffixes may also be less than three letters so you have call signs such as VE7AB in British Columbia and KH6Y in Hawaii.

Call Areas

In North America the number in the call sign generally refers to an area of the country. The 3 in VE3 refers to Ontario and the 6 in K6 refers to California. The number may be shared between states in the U.S. so that 1 as in K1 or W1 can refer to the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Usually in Canada the number refers to a single province although VE1 can refer to the Maritime provinces New Brunswick or Nova Scotia. Other countries follow a similar practice so you can have states in Brazil and Prefectures in Japan.

U.S. Prefixes

Prefixes used by Amateurs in the United States are shown in the following table. U.S. Radio Amateurs may have either a single letter or two letters in the prefix. See the two letter allocations at the bottom of the table. The single letter prefixes K, and N are also in use by U.S. Amateurs. To further complicate matters Amateurs that have moved to a different area of the country may retain their existing call sign so when you hear W8ABC you may be receiving a signal from other than the W8 states.

International Call Sign Allocation

Prefixes beginning with both letters and numbers are allocated to countries around the world that have Amateur Radio licensing.

Special Call Signs

In many countries special call sign allocations may be made to commemorate a special event. These special event call signs usually have an unusual prefix so that the station using the call will be easily recognized. For example the calls M2000A and 7S2000M were heard quite often commemorating the year 2000. CI3O was used in 1996 for the Charles Island DX-PEDITION. Many of these special events also have unique QSL cards that are well worth the effort to make the contact and to send for the card.

(continued on page 4 column 1)

TID BYTES**VE TESTING CHANGES**

VE testing at the club meetings has changed, it is now at **6:00 PM**. Where in the past we have conducted the tests after the meeting, at the May meeting we gave it a try and it worked out very well. This will give us an hour for the testing, and allow us to get home a little earlier.

Remember if you want to test, the session will start at **6:00 PM**. We also need some VE's to be present at that time.

Please bring your CSCSE's, copy of existing license, picture ID and \$14.00 testing fee with you.

Here are the results of the testing session at the club meeting the night of May 4.

John Martin KA5BSE passed his Extra.

Joshua Rogers KE5GDZ passed his General theory. He only needs 5 WPM code to upgrade General.

Rose Pitre passed the Technician and the 5 WPM code test. (Tech with HF privileges). Her new call is KE5IJE.

William Romero passed the Technician test. His new call is KE5IJD.

It was a good session. Four people tested, and all four passed.

Danny K5ARH

Next AARA Meeting
June 1, 2006
Red Cross Building
7:00 PM

Take Your Handheld to Work Day - June 20
 (See QST June 2006 page 54 for story)

(from page 3 column 1)
Vanity Call Signs

Another type of call sign is the vanity call as it is called in the United States. The FCC in the U.S. and Industry Canada permit hams to apply for a call that has special meaning to them. For example, Bob R. might apply for the call KA5BOB or Pam W. might ask for VE3PAM for obvious reasons.

Operating Portable or Mobile

If an amateur operator is in a province, state or country other than his or her own then he/she is working portable. If he was in Florida then the call sign KE5DCI/W4 would be used. KE5DCI in New York would use KE5DCI/W2 and in Quebec would use KE5DCI/VE2. Although a common practice for U.S. hams who have moved to a new state is to continue with their old call sign. Thus KE5DCI who moves to Florida might be using the same call without the portable indication. But he could sign KE5DCI/4. In most areas of the world the portable prefix comes before the call. Thus if KE5DCI was active in Australia the call would be VK1/KE5DCI pronounced "VK1 portable KE5DCI" or ZL1AM in California might use W6/ZL1AM although ZL1AM/W6 would also be acceptable there. When working mobile you would use a call such as KE5DCI/M pronounced as "KE5DCI mobile."

Amateur Radio Bands

Just as many of us have a favorite fast food that we come back to time after time Radio Amateurs tend to have a favorite band that they use more frequently than other bands. The question of what band to use may be secondary to that favorite band. But the first question should be what band(s) am I licensed to use? From the beginning of the licensing process you will find out what bands your license covers.

Next it is a matter of having the right equipment for the bands you want to use. As an entry level license generally covers VHF (2m) and UHF (70cm) and many beginning hams will use one of both of these bands. Also hand-held single-band or dual-band radios for these bands are affordable and don't require a sophisticated antenna or power source. Most metropolitan areas also have amateur repeaters to extend the coverage when using VHF or UHF radios.

Band Restrictions

In addition to deciding what band to use there may also be restrictions within the band depending on your level of license? Canada and the U.S. each have slightly different band allocations which amateurs in each country must follow. See the sidebar for links to web sites where the band plans are defined.

Also the world is divided into 3 ITU regions each of which have their own band plan. These plans all have a great deal of overlap so you can usually talk to anyone anywhere providing you get onto a frequency acceptable to both.

Popular Bands

So what are the bands that most Radio Amateurs use? The table below shows bands that are relatively common and how and when they are in use. Again your license will determine which bands and what portions you are eligible to use.

(continued on page 5 column 1)

ARRL June VHF QSO Party - 1800Z June 10 - 0300Z June 12 (May QST p. 104)
 Kids Day Operating Event - 1800Z - 2400Z June 17 (A Great Time for the Kids)
 SMIRK (6 Meter International Radio Klub) QSO Party - CW, Phone 0000Z June 17 -
 2400Z June 18



06/07	KE5HTJ	Joseph
06/11	KE5HGZ	James
06/20	KC5FES	Charlie
06/23	NJ5X	Don
07/01	K5UA	Charles
07/01	WA5TNK	Ed



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some may not be listed.

Field Day 2006

(continued from page 2)

The AARA would like to invite anyone interested in Amateur (Ham) Radio to come out and visit. We will have a station set up for unlicensed persons to get hands-on experience on talking on amateur radio. Charlie Morrison KI5XP is the chairperson for Field Day 2006. **Scouting groups are always welcome.**

All area merchants that make a donation of soft drinks and food for this event will receive a nice "Certificate of Appreciation" and recognition in our club newsletter.

***WE DO APPRECIATE
YOUR SUPPORT!***

(continued from page 3)

	Band (meter)	MHz	Use*
HF	160	1.8 - 2.0	night
	80	3.5 - 4.0	night and local day
	40	7.0 - 7.3	night and local day
	30	10.1 - 10.15	CW and digital
	20	14.0 - 14.350	world wide day and night
	17	18.068 - 18.168	world wide day and night
	15	21.0 - 21.450	primarily a daytime band
	12	24.890 - 24.990	primarily a daytime band
	10	28.0 - 29.70	daytime during sunspot highs
VHF	6	50 - 54	local to world-wide
	2	144 - 148	local and medium distance
UHF	70 cm	430 - 440	local

This table should be considered a general guideline.

HF Bands

For amateurs who have an interest in long distance communication the HF (high frequency) bands will be of great interest. These bands offer propagation to all parts of the world at some time during the day, night or season. Do you want to talk to Japan from the east coast or Europe from the west? There will often be a time and a band where this communication is possible.

During a sunspot high cycle conditions are best for the higher HF frequencies and during a low the low frequencies are often in demand with all kinds of variation in between. Magazines such as QST and CQ Amateur Radio publish charts monthly that predict the best propagation to different areas of the world. These are just best guesses and will help you to choose your times and a band but there is no substitute for getting on the air.

To follow on the next LARC (Basic Operating Practices.)

73' de Stratos Invriotis KE5DCI

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS -- APRIL 2006

(edited to save space)

Henry WD4Q, Delta Division Director, is urging all LA hams to contact Senator David Vitter, a member of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, to express our support of language addressing the Broadband over Power Line (BPL) interference issue. With an amendment requiring the FCC to study BPL interference now included in Section 502 of the House telecom bill (HR 5252), the ARRL is shifting its focus to the Senate. Full details, including a sample letter, are on the League web site. If you haven't already done so, please write Senator Vitter before June 8, the scheduled date for the Senate bill to be marked up in committee, and include a copy to the ARRL's government relations firm as explained on the web site.

The top scoring stations in the 2006 LA QSO Party are KF5ER (CW), W5DDL (phone), K5FMC (mixed), and W5WZ (rover). Congratulations to the winning stations and a special thanks to the Thibodaux ARC for sponsoring this year's QSO Party. The complete scores and other information are available at http://www.qsl.net/kd5wdy/LAQSO/_laqso_.html

Thanks to K5GLS, AE5V, and WA5LQZ, our section ARES plan has been updated and will be posted on the LA Section web site before the end of May. ARES members, traffic

handlers, and others interested in emergency communications should make themselves a hard copy of the revised section plan, along with copies of our two MOUs, in preparation for this year's hurricane season.

In addition to the lists included in the October 2005 and March 2006 reports, the following amateurs are acknowledged for their work during last year's hurricane season: KD5QNA, KD5NVE, KF5NA, KE5ASI, KC5NNF, K5VMI, KD5REX, KC5GWH, N5KHM, KD5TWA, KC5MHB, KC5SNA, KC5BMA, KD5WWJ, KD5WWH, KE5FST, KD5LLF, AA5US, KD5JEH, KD5OLB, KG5PV, N8JTC, KE5BRI, KD5ZPW, WB5TPY, KE5ECH, KC7MOC, KD5MLD, KK5DL, N5USN, K5RCR, KB5BB, W5HPC, KD5ZPT, KC5FQH, W5WRG, WB5HxD, KB5WMY, KD5LKB, KB5PKW, KB5LE, KD5ZRF, W5PQ, WA5ARJ, KG5YK, K5SRZ, NZ5S, K5VXT, KC0HZU, and NF5B. Nearly 200 LA hams in all have now been recognized with ECC certificates for services rendered during hurricanes Katrina and Rita!

I am very sorry to report that AD5KX is now a Silent Key.

Upcoming hamfests include the Piney Hills ARA Hamfest on July 22 in Ruston, the West Central LA ARC Hamfest on August 12 in Leesville, the Southwest LA Amateur Repeater Club Hamfest in Lake Charles on September 16, and the Central LA ARC Hamfest on October 14 in Pineville.

73,

Mickey Cox K5MC

LA Section Manager

Email: k5mc@arrl.org

LA Section Website: www.laarrl.org/

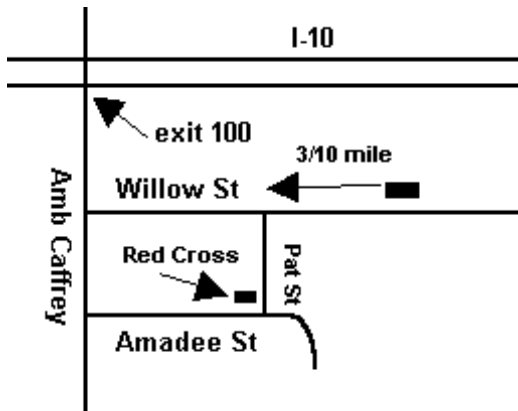
Correction

In the May issue of the LARC, it was reported in the "Editor's Comments" that Deano KD5JZN gave the slide show presentation of photos of Hurricane Rita, however it was Shannon Lytle KE5CKT that gave the presentation.

(continued on next column)

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



June 9 - 10, 2006

Plano, TX

<http://www.hamcom.org>

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

From Carolyns' Kitchen Corner (KA5IJU)

BANANA CREAM PIE (makes 8 servings)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 graham cracker crust | 1/3 cup granulated sugar |
| 4 medium bananas, cut into thin diagonal slices | 1 1/2 cups plain nonfat yogurt |
| 2 tablespoons lemon juice | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 1 envelope unflavored gelatin | Grated lemon zest |

In medium bowl, toss banana slices with juice: reserve 1 cup. Arrange remaining banana slices over graham cracker crust.

In small saucepan, sprinkle gelatin over 1/2 cup cold water; let stand 2 minutes. Add sugar; cook over medium-high heat, stirring constantly 2-3 minutes, until mixture boils and gelatin and sugar are dissolved. Remove from heat.

With whisk, add yogurt and vanilla to gelatin mixture; pour over bananas in pie plate. Decoratively arrange reserved banana slices on top of pie; evenly sprinkle with lemon zest. Refrigerate, covered with plastic wrap, until well chilled.

If you have a favorite recipe, we would like to hear from you.



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245